

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS28682 / HCR011

In October 2020, President Trump signed into law the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020 that designates 988 as the three-digit number for suicide prevention and mental health crisis needs (U.S. public law No: 116-172.). In July 2022, 988 will go live and replace the current national suicide prevention phone number 800-273-8255. This resolution requests that the Idaho Legislature in cooperation and partnership with the Idaho Suicide Prevention Action Collective and Idaho Department of Health and Welfare recognize 988 as the new universal mental health and suicide prevention crisis phone number effective July 2022. Idaho's suicide numbers are 41% higher than the national average and have experienced about 24.5 suicides per 100,000 Idahoans. Further, the Idaho Suicide Prevention Hotline received over 14,000 calls, chats, and texts in 2020 and has received an increasing volume of calls since launching its 24/7 service in 2014. Call volume and service needs are expected to increase significantly with 988.

FISCAL NOTE

This resolution has no direct fiscal impact, however, the national and state rollout for 988 will lead to an increased demand for services from the state and the Idaho Suicide Prevention Hotline. Financial support will be needed from all current contributors prior to the rollout to ensure 988 is functional upon go-live.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).